

**MAY 7, 2007  
CITY OF SENOIA  
PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

**7:00 PM**

**Adoption of Ethics Ordinance  
Adoption of Golf Cart Ordinance  
Addition of Infill Subdivision to Zoning Ordinance**

**VISITORS: Barbara Hyde, Jan Davis, Donna Black, Mary Ann Dossett, Jack Humphrey, Sam & Suzanne Helfman, Bob Werner, Paul & Ann Price, Kenny Calhoun, Debbie Graham, Gail Downs, John Thompson, Chad Floyd, Murray McAfee, Scott Tigchelaar, Chief Bennett, Sgt. Resmondo, Stephanie Savage, Holly Killabrew, Joyce Smith, Dianne Cleveland, Rebecca Neill and Mary Provost.**

**FULL COUNCIL PRESENT**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME VISITORS**

Mayor Belisle called the Public Hearing to order and welcomed all.

**2. PURPOSE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS**

To present and receive comments on the adoption of an Ethics Ordinance, the adoption of a Golf Cart Ordinance and the addition of Infill Subdivisions to the Zoning Ordinance

**3. COMMENTS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

• **Ethics Ordinance**

Mr. Ferry informed all that the process of becoming a City of Ethics began back in 2005 and its primary purpose is for the residents of the City to have confidence in their elected officials. There were no comments from the Public or Council.

• **Golf Cart Ordinance**

Mr. Ferry explained that the carts or “low speed vehicles” can be operated on City streets of 35 mph or less. In the City’s comp plan adopted what is know as the Greenways System (multi-use paths) in areas of the City. An ordinance will have to be adopted to move forward with this plan.

• **Addition of Infill Subdivision to the Zoning Ordinance**

Mr. Ferry explained that this ordinance began in an effort to streamline the process for subdivision of a designated tract of land. Discussion first came up in April 2005 and it was determined to keep the same process but after several were submitted it was clear that a different process was needed. Infill Subdivision would be very good for what is termed “smart growth”, which does not allow a sprawl to occur. There is some hesitation regarding storm water, which will need to managed well and also the character of Senoia. The ordinance before Council achieves the goals set forth by the comp plan but Mr. Ferry isn’t sure that it will meet the expectation of the residents of Senoia.

**4. COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC**

**Murray McAfee of Springdale Subdivision** asked if operators will be required to have a driver’s license & was told by Mayor Belisle that it is the intention of Council that the driver either be licensed or over the age of 21. Mr. McAfee asked if the carts will have to meet all of the standards for as applies to vehicles such as lighting, brakes, etc. Mr.

Whalen stated that it will need to be lit for night driving but turn signals are not required for carts, further adding that LSV come with directional signals. Mr. McAfee then asked if the cart path intersects or is part of a public street does the operator have to be licensed and informed all that there are some in the City who are not licensed but have the necessity of the golf cart to carry on daily needs. Mr. Whalen stated that if the cart is operated on the roads the driver must be licensed by state law. Mr. McAfee suggested designation of some of the back streets for vehicle and cart use which will enable us to meet the state requirements as well as satisfy the carts. Council would like some clarification on the state law and which streets golf carts can be operated on. Mayor Belisle indicated that Council wants carts to be able to use City streets of 35 mph or less.

**Jack Humphrey and Ellen Vickery of Johnson and Turin Streets** approached Council asking that the carts be allowed. Mr. Humphrey stated that due to health issues, Ms. Vickery is unable to get a drivers license and depends on the golf cart for use within the City. Mayor Belisle again informed all that it is the intention of Council to allow carts with a licensed driver or over the age of 21. Mr. Humphrey then suggested signage for the streets that apply.

**Dianne Cleveland of 549 Seavy Street** stated that she is concerned that the ATV's would be allowed on the streets.

**Paul Price of 548 Seavy Street** is concerned with the character of the town and wants to maintain the small town charm and if infill is allowed that charm will be lost as well as our tree scape.

**Jan Davis is owner of 354 Seavy Street** stated that he is in favor of the Infill subdivision that will allow him to move in another historic home on the empty lot adjacent the "blue house".

**Mr. McAfee** asked if there is a minimum lot size for the Infill & was told ½ acre or the average of the ten closest lots.

**Dianne Cleveland** asked when a person is speaking should they use the address they reside at or the address of property they own & was told either.

**5. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL**

C. Harrison asked for the definition of a low speed vehicle & was told road and street capable at 35 mph or less. C. Harrison then asked if a 4-wheeler would be allowed & was told that the definitions clearly indicate which road are worthy and which are for paths. C. Graham wanted to clarify that we are asking for what the State law is regarding operators of the carts and was told yes.

**6. ADJOURN**

C. Graham made motion to adjourn the May 7, 2007 Public Hearing & was 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Grover. Motion carried unanimously.

